

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 20, 22, 24-31 and 34-37 are pending in this application. Claims 22, 24 and 37 have been withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner. By this Amendment, claims 20 and 34 are amended, and claims 23 and 33 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Support for the claims can be found throughout the specification, including the original claims and the drawings. Withdrawal of the rejections in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Office Action rejects claims 20, 25-28 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,570,267 to Ma (hereinafter "Ma") in view of Figure 1 of the present application. Claim 33 has been cancelled. The rejection, in so far as it applies to claims 20 and 25-28, is respectfully traversed.

The subject matter of claims 23 and 33 (now cancelled) has been incorporated into independent claim 20. The Office Action combines Ma and Figure 1 of the present application with U.S. Patent No. 5,905,550 to Ohgami et al. (hereinafter "Ohgami") in a later rejection of claim 23. Thus, this rejection will be addressed with respect to Ma, Figure 1 of the present application, and Ohgami.

Independent claim 20 is directed to a method for fixing a flat display panel in a monitor, including aligning a display panel and a fixing frame with a back cover, , comprising aligning at least one aligning guide provided on the fixing frame with at least one corresponding guide

portion provided on the back cover, wherein the at least one guide portion is provided with an aligning groove that receives the at least one aligning guide so as to align the fixing frame and the back cover. Independent claim 20 then recites thereafter simultaneously coupling the aligned display panel and fixing frame to the back cover using a fastener, the fastener being inserted from a forward side of the display panel and extending therethrough and into the back cover. Independent claim 20 also recites thereafter coupling a front cover to the back cover having the display panel and fixing frame coupled thereto, comprising engaging at least one hook and at least one corresponding hook receiving portion so as to couple the back cover and the front cover, wherein a strength of the front cover is less than a strength of the back cover, and the at least one hook is bent so as to define insertion ends that are inserted into the at least one hook receiving portion.

As acknowledged in the Office Action, Ma and Figure 1 of the present application, either alone or in combination, neither disclose nor suggest each of the features of independent claim 20 (as amended). The Office Action applies Ohgami in combination with Ma and Figure 1 of the present application as allegedly teaching these features. However, even this combination fails to teach or suggest the features of independent claim 20.

More specifically, Ma discloses in Figure 1 (referred to in the Office Action) a prior art LCD module including a display unit A, a bottom cover B and a top cover C. In assembling the LCD module, the display unit A is first fastened to the bottom cover B using a first set of screws, and then the top cover C is fastened to the bottom cover B by a second set of screws.

Applicant maintains the position that the notebook computer, LCD module, and associated assembly system disclosed by Ma is not properly compared to the claimed fixing method. More specifically, the claimed back cover is necessarily more robust than the front cover. This higher strength back cover would add undue cost and complexity to Ma's notebook computer. Additionally, one of ordinary skill in the art would install a set of screws through the claimed front cover, as in Ma's design, due at least in part to the relative weakness of the claimed front cover compared to the claimed back cover.

However, even if improperly compared, Ma still neither discloses nor suggests any type of fixing frame which is aligned with the display unit A, nor that the display unit A and such a fixing frame are simultaneously coupled to the bottom cover B using a fastener that is inserted from a forward side of the display unit A and extending therethrough into the bottom cover B. Rather, the second set of screws extends through the top cover C into the bottom cover B.

The Office Action asserts that it would have been obvious to rearrange an insertion direction of the screws. However, it is respectfully submitted that Ma teaches away from such a reversal, in that Ma specifically teaches that the screws must be accessible to facilitate removal of the covers for maintenance and repair. Such a modification would make this operation more, rather than less, complex, thus defeating the purpose and intent of Ma's design.

The Office Action asserts that an alleged outer frame which surrounds the display unit A shown in Figure 1 of Ma may be compared to the claimed fixing frame. However, Ma makes no such specific disclosure of an outer frame in the written description of Figure 1, nor of how this

alleged frame is coupled to the display unit A, nor that this alleged frame and display unit A are simultaneously coupled to the bottom cover B, as recited in independent claim 20. Rather, as previously set forth, Ma's notebook computer uses a lead wire D to connect the display module A and the main body E, thus eliminating any need for such a fixing frame.

The Office Action then asserts (at page 3, lines 10-13) that any portion along the periphery of the display unit A/frame is comparable to the claimed aligning guide, and that any portion covering the periphery of the display unit A/frame is comparable to the claimed guide portion. However, Ma neither discloses nor suggests that either the display unit A or the back cover B include any type of guides or guide portions that actually provide for proper alignment of these two components. In fact, the display unit A/frame and back cover B are shown in an already mated state in Figure 1 of Ma. The mating surfaces are blocked or obscured. Thus, the assumption that these two components include aligning guides and guide portions as recited in independent claim 20 requires the improper use of impermissible hindsight gleaned from Applicant's own disclosure. However, even if one were to improperly assume that the display unit A/frame and back cover B were to include some type of aligning device, Ma still neither discloses nor suggests guide portions that include aligning grooves that receive the aligning guides, as recited in independent claim 20.

Further, as acknowledged in the Office Action, Ma neither discloses nor suggests coupling the top cover C to the bottom cover B by engaging a hook and a hook receiving portion, as recited in independent claim 20. Further, Ma necessarily neither discloses nor

suggests that such a hook is bent to define insertion ends that are inserted into hook receiving portion as recited in independent claim 20.

Figure 1 of the present application is merely cited in this rejection to teach the use of bosses, and thus fails to overcome the above stated deficiencies of Ma.

Ohgami is merely cited as allegedly teaching the use of a hook and a hook receiving portion, and thus fails to overcome the deficiencies of Ma and Figure 1 of the present application as set forth above. Additionally, the first engaging claw or hook, 25 and the second engaging claw, or hook receiving portion, 26 disclosed by Ohgami couple an inner wall of a display 21 and a display cover 20. Ohgami neither discloses nor suggests that the first and second engaging claws 25 and 26 couple a front and back cover, as do the claimed hook and hook receiving portion.

For all of these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 20 is allowable over Ma and Figure 1 of the present application, even when also combined with Ohgami, and thus the rejection of independent claim 20 should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 25-28 are allowable at least for the reasons set forth above with respect to independent claim 20 and from which they depend, as well as for their features.

The Office Action rejects claims 20 and 25-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Figure 1 and pages 2-4 of the present application. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The features recited in independent claim 20 are set forth above. As set forth above, Figure 1 of the present application neither discloses nor suggests such features, or the claimed

combination of features. Further, as set forth above, the method steps recited in independent claim 20 would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, even given the disclosure of Figure 1 of the present application.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 20 is allowable over Figure 1 of the present application and the accompanying written description thereof, and thus the rejection of independent claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Figure 1 and pages 2-4 of the present application should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 25-31 are allowable at least for the reasons set forth above with respect to independent claim 20, from which they depend, as well as for their added features.

The Office Action rejects claims 23 and 34-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Ma in view of Figure 1 of the present application, and further in view of Ohgami. Claim 23 has been cancelled. The rejection, in so far as it applies to claims 34-36, is respectfully traversed.

Dependent claims 34-36 are allowable over Ma, Figure 1 of the present application, and Ohgami at least for the reasons set forth above with respect to independent claim 20, from which they depend, as well as for their added features. Accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Serial No. **10/691,614**
Reply to Office Action of **December 6, 2007**

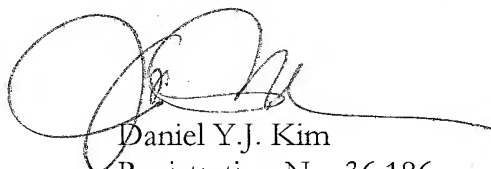
Docket No. **HI-0183**

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned, **Joanna K. Mason**, at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
KED & ASSOCIATES, LLP



Daniel Y.J. Kim
Registration No. 36,186
Joanna K. Mason
Registration No. 56,408

P.O. Box 221200
Chantilly, Virginia 20153-1200
703 766-3777 DYK:JKM:lh

Date: March 5, 2008

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Please direct all correspondence to Customer Number 34610